

## Overview

In 2000, the City Council approved the formation of a Self-Supporting Municipal Improvement District (SSMID) in downtown Wichita. The SSMID is a benefit assessment district created to improve and convey special benefits to properties located within the central business district of Wichita. The district was endorsed by a majority of downtown property owners with the stated purpose of financing improvements and services in the central business district on a supplemental basis. In other words, activities funded by the SSMID will supplement, not replace, existing downtown promotion/marketing activities.

Under State law, the District has a 10-year lifespan, with SSMID funds available beginning on January 1, 2002. After 10 years, the SSMID may be renewed by repeating the district formation process. The district currently levies an additional 7.36 mills of property tax on commercial properties located within the district to support SSMID activities; State law provides that up to 10 mills may be levied for this purpose. This additional tax revenue is dedicated solely to SSMID activities.

The SSMID is governed by the City Council. The Kansas SSMID statute allows for the creation of an advisory board to submit operating plans and budgets to the Council, and to provide assistance in policy direction for SSMID-funded activities. Voting members of the SSMID Advisory Board must be property owners and/or lessees of commercial property (or corporate designees) within the District, and must provide evidence that they pay SSMID assessments.

## Finance and Operations

The goals of the SSMID include providing a strong, unified voice for the downtown area; strengthening downtown's competitiveness to attract and retain businesses; and protecting and enhancing downtown property values. Supported activities include image enhancement, marketing, business retention and recruitment, urban vitality improvements and operational activities.

Day-to-day administration of SSMID activities are contracted to a separate entity to provide centralized oversight and direction for SSMID activities. Activities include downtown promotion and marketing, as well as business recruitment. Start-up operations were funded from a loan of \$100,000 for the City's General Fund to be repaid over a period of four years beginning with the first distribution of tax funds in 2002. The SSMID is not projecting an increase in the mill levy.

<b>Self-Supporting Municipal Improvement District Budget Summary</b>					
	<b>2001 Actual</b>	<b>2002 Adopted</b>	<b>2002 Revised</b>	<b>2003 Adopted</b>	<b>2004 Approved</b>
<b>SSMID Fund Revenue</b>	<b>899</b>	<b>484,690</b>	<b>484,690</b>	<b>495,000</b>	<b>510,000</b>
Contracted program activities	0	459,690	459,690	470,000	485,000
Loan repayment	0	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
<b>Total SSMID Fund Expenditures</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>484,690</b>	<b>484,690</b>	<b>495,000</b>	<b>510,000</b>
<b>SSMID Fund Balance</b>	<b>899</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Total FTE positions	0	0	0	0	0



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